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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REPORT - WAR ON TERRORISM

PARIS - PARIS - JULY 27, 2005

(A) SUBJECTS COVERED IN TODAY'S REPORT:

1. WAR ON TERRORISM
2. IRAQI'S CONSTITUTION
3. DPRK NUCLEAR PROGRAM
4. FAMINE IN THE SAHEL: NIGER

B) SUMMARY OF COVERAGE:

ISRAELI PM AREIL SHARON'S VISIT TO FRANCE, FAMINE IN NIGER, FRENCH AUTHORITIES' DECISION TO EXPAND USE OF PUBLIC VIDEO-SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS, AND NASA'S SUCCESSFUL SHUTTLE LAUNCH TOPS TODAY'S HEADLINES. RIGHT-OF-CENTER LE FIGARO'S ECONOMIC PAGES FOCUS ON THE DOMINANCE OF U.S. COMPANIES - THE TOP 8 OR 10 BRANDS ARE AMERICAN - IN THE GLOBAL MARKETPLACE.

ALL NEWSPAPERS REPORT ON PRIME MINISTER ARIEL SHARON'S VISIT TO FRANCE AS A RENEWAL IN THE FRANCO-ISRAELI RELATIONS: "ARIEL SHARON COMES TO MAKE PEACE WITH PARIS" HEADLINES CATHOLIC LA CROIX WHILE RIGHT-OF-CENTER LE FIGARO READS "MEETING IN PARIS BETWEEN FRANCE AND ISRAEL." LE MONDE HAS AN INTERVIEW OF SHARON: "ISRAEL, PALESTINE, 'THE WALL': ARIEL SHARON EXPLAINS HIMSELF. A FEW QUOTES FROM HIS INTERVIEW SAY: "I AM READY FOR PAINFUL CONCESSIONS", "PEACE MOSTLY DEPENDENTS ON PALESTINIANS", "THE ARABS HAVE NEVER ACCEPTED ISRAEL", "WE ARE CONFRONTED BY THE WORST OF HATRED".

IN A VERY LONG EDITORIAL PIECE, LEFT-OF-CENTER LE MONDE'S DIRECTOR JEAN-MARIE COLOMBANI TRIES TO EXPLAIN AND UNDERSTAND HOW WE WILL BE ABLE TO LIVE WITH TERRORISM. (SEE PART C)

COMMUNIST L'HUMANIT HAS AN INSERT ON IRAQ'S NEW CONSTITUTION (SEE PART C)

FOLLOWING THE KEY ROLE OF SECURITY CAMERAS IN LONDON FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF SUICIDE BOMBERS, THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WANTS TO WIDEN PUBLIC SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS IN FRANCE. HOWEVER CATHOLIC LA CROIX NOTES "THE ROLE OF SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS REMAINS VERY LIMITED IN THE FACE OF PEOPLE READY TO DIE."

THE NEGOTIATIONS TAKING PLACE IN BEIJING REGARDING NORTH KOREA'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM ARE REPORTED IN CATHOLIC LA CROIX AND COMMUNIST L'HUMANIT (SEE PART C)

BOTH LEFT-OF-CENTER LIBERATION AND COMMUNIST L'HUMANIT DEVOTE THEIR FRONT PAGES TO NIGER. HEADLINES READ "IN THE STARVING NIGER" (LEFT-OF-CENTER LIBERATION) AND "SACRIFICED NIGER" (SEE PART C)

THE SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH OF SPACE SHUTTLE DISCOVERY IS REPORTED IN MOST NEWSPAPERS WITH PICTURES OF THE LAUNCH. ON ITS FRONT PAGE, RIGHT-OF-CENTER LE FIGARO HEADLINES "THE RETURN OF AMERICANS TO SPACE."

AFTER THE PURCHASE OF THE TAITTINGER GROUP, BARRY STERNLICHT, THE CEO OF STARWOOD AND TAITTINGER'S NEW OWNER, IS INTERVIEWED IN ECONOMIC LES ECHOS AND POINTS OUT: "WE DO NOT INTEND TO KEEP THE CHAMPAGNE FIELD. WE WOULD PREFER IT TO STAY IN FRENCH HANDS.". ACCORDING TO ECONOMIC LA TRIBUNE, THE CREDIT AGRICOLE GROUP WOULD BUY IT, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE TAITTINGER FAMILY.

(C) SUPPORTING TEXT/BLOCK QUOTES:

WAR ON TERRORISM

"LIVING WITH TERRORISM"

JEAN-MARIE COLOMBANI IN LE MONDE (07/27) ". IRAQ WAS DEFINITELY NOT AN ANSWER TO TERRORISM. THE US MILITARY INTERVENTION IN THIS COUNTRY, AS THE EUROPEANS PREDICTED, ONLY EXACERBATED ISLAMIC MILITANTS' RESENTMENT. IT MAINTAINS A GOOD PART OF THE ARAB MUSLIM WORLD IN ITS HATRED OF THE UNITED STATES AND IS OF COURSE USED AS A PRETEXT. WORSE: IN A WORLD OF INSTANT GLOBALIZATION OF IMAGES, THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH CAR-BOMB MASSACRE IN BAGHDAD IS NOT ATTRIBUTED TO ONE OR

ANOTHER SUNNITE REBELLION GROUP; IT IS IMPUTED TO THE AMERICAN OCCUPATION AND CONSIDERED AS ANOTHER PROOF OF THE `WAR' THAT THE WEST WOULD BE FIGHTING AGAINST THE MUSLIM WORLD. HUNDRED OF MILLIONS OF MUSLIM TELEVISION VIEWERS MAKE THE UNITED STATES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DAILY SLAUGHTERS THAT IRAQ IS GOING THROUGH EVERY DAY. ONE CAN PUT INTO QUESTION THE VALIDITY OF THIS THOUGHT PROCESS BUT WE CANNOT IGNORE THIS PREVAILING PERCEPTION. THE EPICENTER IS IN PAKISTAN. AS OUR REPORTS SHOW IT EVERYDAY, PAKISTAN IS A CAULDRON, AS THE SAME TIME AS A KIND OF BIG FACTORY TO PRODUCE COMBATANTS FOR THE `HOLY WAR'. . TO HAVE TARGETED IRAQ INSTEAD OF WORRYING ON TIME ABOUT PAKISTAN IS ONE OF THE MANY NONSENSE OF BUSH GOVERNMENT."

IRAQ NEW CONSTITUTION

"`NEW IRAQ' CLOSES ITS DOORS TO JEWS"

PAUL FALZON IN COMMUNIST L'HUMANIT (07/27) "ONE WAS NOT EXPECTING MIRACLES FROM THE TEAM IN CHARGE OF WRITING THE NEW IRAQI'S CONSTITUTION CONSIDERING HOW TENSIONS BETWEEN THE VARIOUS COMMUNITIES WEAKEN THE POLITICAL AND SECURITY BALANCE OF THE COUNTRY. BUT WE WERE NOT EXPECTING THEM TO TURN ON TO ANTI-SEMITISM TO RENEW THE BOND BETWEEN FACTIONS. THE MAJORITY OF DELEGATES HAVE DECIDED TO GIVE BACK THE IRAQI NATIONALLY TO EXILES ONLY IF THEY LEFT THE COUNTRY AFTER 1963. THIS DATE IS OFFICIALLY THAT OF THE FIRST COUP D'ETAT BY THE BAATH PARTY. HOWEVER IT ESPECIALLY UNABLE TO EXCLUDE THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF JEWISH CITIZENS WHO WERE VICTIMS OF PERSECUTIONS AND FLED IRAQ WHEN ISRAEL WAS CREATED. LET US HOPE THAT THE PARLIAMENT, WHICH WILL HAVE THE LAST WORD ON THE CONSTITUTION, WILL REMOVE THIS ARRANGEMENT."

DPRK NUCLEAR PROGRAM, 6 PARTY TALKS JULY 26

"NORTH KOREA COULD GIVE UP ITS NUCLEAR ARSENAL"
NADIA HADJ-BOUZIANE IN CATHOLIC LA CROIX (07/27) "THE RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS ON THE NORTH KOREAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM'S DISMANTLING SEEM TO HAVE BEGIN WITH GOOD BASIS. FIRST OF ALL BECAUSE THE UNITED STATES HAVE STRAIGHT AWAY ASSERTED THEIR WILL OF CONCILIATION. FOR THE FIRST TIME, THEY ALSO ACKNOWLEDGED THE `SOVEREIGNTY' OF NORTH KOREA. FOR A LITTLE WHILE NOW, GEORGE W. BUSH HAS CALLED NORTH KOREA'S NUMBER ONE `MR. KIM JONG-IL', LEAVING OUT THE TERM `DICTATOR'. TO BE TREATED WITH RESPECT WAS THE ULTIMATE CLAIM OF THE NORTH KOREAN LEADER. THE PEKIN MEETING SHOULD ENABLE THE CREATION OF A CLIMATE OF TRUST. HOWEVER, ONE SHOULD NOT FORGET THAT IF NORTH KOREA ALWAYS STEPPED BACK DURING THE VARIOUS NEGOTIATIONS THAT GATHERED THE 6 PARTIES SEVERAL TIMES IN VAIN, IT IS BECAUSE THROUGH THE NORMALIZATION OF ITS RELATION WITH WASHINGTON AND SEOUL, THE STALINIAN REGIME ALSO FEARS THE SPREADING OF DEMOCRACY IN NORTH KOREA."

"WASHINGTON AND PYONGYANG REINITIATE THE DIALOGUE"
CAROLINE DUKE IN COMMUNIST L'HUMANIT (07/27) "IF THE TWO PARTIES DISPLAYED AN OBVIOUS GOOD WILL YESTERDAY, THE RENUNCIATION OF NORTH KOREAN NUCLEAR IS FAR FROM BEING ESTABLISHED.. A RENUNCIATION BY NORTH KOREA OF ITS PROGRAM WOULD NEED TO GO WITH THE WITHDRAW OF AMERICAN NUCLEAR ARMS IN THE SOUTH OF THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND OF COMPENSATION OFFERS BY THE PARTICIPANTS TO NORTH KOREA TALKS."

NIGER

"RICH COUNTRIES' INDECENCY"
PATRICK SABATIER IN LEFT-OF-CENTER LIBERATION "NIGER IS DYING OF HUNGER. AND THIS AS THE ECHO OF THE . PROCLAMATION OF COMPASSION FROM BIG COUNTRIES OF THE G8 IS STILL ON. THIS IS THE CRUEL ILLUSTRATION OF THE BIG GAP BETWEEN THE RHETORIC OF THE AID TO AFRICA AND ITS REALITY THAT MIXES STINGINESS, MORAL INDIFFERENCE AND STRATEGIC BLINDNESS. RICH COUNTRIES DO NOT HESITATE TO BE INTERESTED IN NIGER TO EXPLOIT IT. BUSH (WRONGLY) ACCUSED IT OF HAVING SUPPLIED IRAQ WITH AN (INEXISTENT) NUCLEAR PROGRAM . NIAMEY IS STILL WAITING FOR AN AID AGAINST ITS WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION THAT ARE DRYNESS, LOCUSTS AND POVERTY. THE SCANDAL IS PATENT BECAUSE THIS UNSPOKEN CATASTROPHE HITS MILLIONS OF NIGERIANS WAS NOT ONLY PREDICTABLE BUT PREDICTED AND ANNOUNCED FOR ALMOST A YEAR BUT NGOS AND THE UN. IT WAS NEITHER VERY COMPLICATED NOR VERY EXPENSIVE TO PREVENT IT FROM HAPPENING. NON-ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE AT RISK IS OF COURSE NOT CONSIDERED A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY ACCORDING TO INTERNATIONAL LAWS."

STAPLETON